

What is claimed is:

- [c1] An absolute position detecting device for a linear actuator having a motor, an output shaft, and a conversion means for converting output rotation of the motor to linear motion of the output shaft, comprising:
a rotary absolute sensor that detects an absolute rotary position per rotation of the motor;
a linear absolute sensor that detects an absolute linear position within a set range of movement of the output shaft; and,
calculation means for calculating an absolute linear position of the output shaft based on a combination of an output of the rotary absolute sensor and an output of the linear absolute sensor; wherein
the range of movement of the output shaft over which the absolute linear position can be detected by the linear absolute sensor is different from a distance by which the output shaft is moved per rotation of the motor as converted by the conversion means.
- [c2] The device according to claim 1, wherein the rotational absolute sensor is a motor control encoder affixed to the motor output shaft.